

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A drive (10) for a device for raising a hood of a motor vehicle, comprising an energy storing unit, which drives an actuating member of a lifting mechanism coupled to the hood, an electromotor (16), by which the energy storing unit can be set into a tensioned state, and a locking element which in a rest position holds the energy storing unit in the tensioned state, characterized in that a carrier (26) is provided, moveable in a linear manner by the electromotor (16) and capable of being coupled selectively to the energy storing unit, the carrier by a first linear movement tensioning the energy storing unit and by a second linear movement releasing the locking element.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A drive (10) for a device for raising a hood of a motor vehicle, comprising an energy storing unit, which drives an actuating member of a lifting mechanism coupled to the hood, an electromotor (16), by which the energy storing unit can be set into a tensioned state, and a locking element which in a rest position holds the energy storing unit in the tensioned state, characterized in that a carrier (26) is provided, moveable in a linear manner by the electromotor (16) and capable of being coupled selectively to the energy storing unit, the carrier by a first movement

tensioning the energy storing unit and by a second movement
releasing the locking element, ~~The drive according to claim 1,~~
characterized in that the carrier (26) is arranged on a
threaded spindle (24) coupled to the motor (16).

Claim 3 (Original): The drive according to claim 1,
characterized in that the drive (10) comprises a bearing shaft
(22) mounted in a housing (12).

Claim 4 (Original): The drive according to claim 3,
characterized in that the energy storing unit comprises a
spiral spring (18) and a coupling element (20) coupled non-
rotatably to the bearing shaft (22), the spiral spring (18)
being fastened by one end to the housing (12) and by the other
end to the coupling element (20).

Claim 5 (Original): The drive according to claim 3,
characterized in that for tensioning the energy storing unit,
the carrier (26) can be brought into engagement with a
swivellable lever (28), which is coupled non-rotatably to the
bearing shaft (22).

Claim 6 (Original): The drive according to claim 5,
characterized in that the locking element is a locking pawl
(30) supported on the housing (12), the locking pawl in a rest
position engaging and securing the lever (28).

Serial No. 10/783,197

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The drive according to claim 6, characterized in that the locking pawl (30) in ~~its~~ the rest position rests on the carrier (26).

Claim 8 (Original): The drive according to claim 1, characterized in that the actuating member is a hinge member (32) coupled non-rotatably to the bearing shaft (22).

Claim 9 (New) The drive according to claim 4 wherein said one end of said spiral spring (18) that is fastened to said housing (12) is located radially inward with respect to the rotational axis of the spiral spring (18) from said other end of said spiral spring (18) that is fastened to the coupling element (20).